

Testimony Opposing HB0714

Health - Abortion Data - Submission to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

UNFAVORABLE

March 17, 2026

Delegate Heather Bagnall, Chair; Delegate Bonnie Cullison, Vice Chair; and esteemed members of the House Health Committee:

I am writing to express my opposition to House Bill 714, which would require the Maryland Health Department to report abortion data to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC).

Information about pregnancy and abortion rates in Maryland is already publicly available. The [Society for Family Planning](#) and the [Guttmacher Institute](#) have collected and published this data for several years. In fact, because the Guttmacher Institute generates its own [survey data](#) and does not rely on mandatory state reporting systems, its data are considered more reliable.

Importantly, since the data is already publicly available, there is no justification for creating a new reporting system that could breach the confidentiality of patients. This bill would result in a waste of resources and could create an environment of fear and intimidation for patients seeking abortion-related care.

Reporting is not mandated for other types of health care. Do not require it for abortion-related services in Maryland.

For these reasons, I urge the Committee to return an unfavorable report on HB0714.

Respectfully Submitted,
Melinda Littell
Arnold, D33C